

**DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG PROGRAMS**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September XX, 2005

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## **SEPTEMBER MARKS THE START OF NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH—A CELEBRATION OF RECOVERY FROM ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTION**

**CALIFORNIA** – September is National Recovery Month a celebration of recovery from alcohol and drug addiction. The theme for this year's event is healing lives, families and communities a reminder that treatment works and recovery happens.

During Recovery Month each September, communities nationwide join together to help people recognize that substance use disorders are chronic conditions that can be prevented and treated.

Alcoholism and drug addiction are significant public health concerns affecting every member of society. When individuals enter a drug free lifestyle, they become productive members of society, helping to curb incidences of crime, emergency-related health care, unemployment, and child and spousal abuse. The high medical, criminal justice and economic implications of addiction are estimated to cost \$365 billion a year in the United States and \$44 billion each year in California.

Last year, the California Alcohol and Drug Data System (CADDs) reported over 364,000 admissions to publicly funded substance abuse treatment in California. On any given day in the state, there are over 170,000 clients in treatment.

The report found that Heroin is the primary drug of choice at admission in San Francisco (37%) and Los Angeles County (25%). Methamphetamine is the drug of choice at admission for individuals in San Bernardino 48%, Shasta 46%, Orange 40%, San Diego 36%, Sacramento 35% and Fresno counties 32%.

The findings from (CADDs) show that males make up 66% of those in treatment and women make up 36%. Of those who seek treatment in California, 49% are white, 24% Hispanic, and 17% Black. Individuals between the ages of 21 and 40 make up over half (50%) of those in publicly funded treatment.

(More)



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Throughout the month of September events are taking place in counties across California to celebrate and support recovery. San Diego County will host a resource fair with 50 participating agencies and a brownbag picnic lunch. San Bernardino County will host a walk on September 25 to celebrate with people in their community who have been successful with recovery from alcohol and drug use.

Sonoma will host the "Faces of Recovery Rally & March" followed by a Picnic & Softball Tournament on September 25. Fresno will celebrate a third annual gathering on September 10 featuring live music, games and prizes. Ventura will present, "Recovery Happens in Prop 36" with special guest and speakers, September 19. San Luis Obispo will host a Con Orgullo (With Pride) Spanish Language Recovery Happens Event on September 16.

For a complete list of county events, please log on to  
<http://www.adp.ca.gov/RecoveryHappens/RecoveryHappens.shtml>

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